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TAGS: KNNP PARM PREL IR EU AORC CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS FULLY SUPPORTS EU POSITION ON IRAN

REF: STATE 06236

Classified By: Ambassador Ronald L. Schlicher

(C) On January 18, Polchief delivered reftel message and non-papers to Sotos Liassides, Director for Multilateral Affairs at the Cypriot MFA, and Panayiotis Papadopoulos, who covers Middle East issues in the Bilateral Affairs division. Liassides stressed the GOC's support for the EU position on Iran and noted that he and Permanent Secretary Zakheous had both called in the Iranian Ambassador on at least three occasions to express concern over Tehran's intransigence on the enrichment issue. The GOC fully endorsed the statement of the EU-3 Foreign Ministers. Cyprus would be closely following developments both in Iran and in the IAEA and hoped to play a constructive, if limited, role. Liassides considered it unlikely, however, that Cyprus would speak out publicly in support of referring Iran to the UNSC.

SCHLICHER